The Minor Irrigation Department.

51. ✻ **MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE** (*Muvattupuzha II*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government for abolishing the Minor Irrigation Department ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): May I know whether Government are considering the question of revising the Minor Irrigation Rules on account of the impracticability of working the scheme ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, Sir.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): How long since was it under the consideration of Government ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): When the Minor Irrigation Department was formed the Chief Engineer was told that he should send up proposals for amending the Minor Irrigation Regulation and the rules thereunder.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : May I know whether Government are convinced of the impracticability and the uselessness of the department ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No, Sir.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : What was the necessity of revising the rules ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The rules require revision. That does not mean that the department is useless.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Are the rules going to be revised thoroughly or only slightly amended ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The rules will be revised wherever necessary.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : May I know from Government whether the Minor Irrigation Department is not functioning ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes. Sir, it is functioning.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*) : May I know from the member whether he is aware that the work done by the department is not even equal to the pay that the several officers are drawing ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is a new department formed very recently. Investigations had to be made and estimates prepared by the department which took sometime and actual work will be turned out in a larger measure hereafter.

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MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): May I know from Government whether they have received complaints from officers of the department to the effect that the rules make it difficult for the work to be carried out?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have not received any such complaint.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): For whose benefit was the Minor Irrigation Department formed?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It was formed for the benefit of the cultivators.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know why that department has not been brought under the Land Revenue Commissioner?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government did not think it necessary to do so.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Are the Government aware that the department as constituted at present is not at all beneficial to the interest of the cultivators.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, Sir.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government look into the question that the department is functioning uselessly and it must be made to function so as to be of use to cultivators?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no necessity to look into the question because the Government are not aware of the uselessness of the department.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Is there any objection in placing that department under the control of the Land Revenue Commissioner?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Legitimately this department must be under the Public Works Department and not under the Land Revenue Department.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether the department is to operate in a particular area of the State or throughout the State?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The department operates throughout the State except in South Travancore which is served by the Kodayar Project.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether there is any separate officer appointed to look to the minor irrigation works in the areas served by the Kodayar Project?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The officer in charge of Public Works is in charge of the Kodayar Project also.

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MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether Government are aware that due to the want of a responsible officer to look exclusively to this work the ryots are put to difficulties?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I don't think that any serious hardship is being experienced by the ryots. There may be some complaints here and there.

Muslim Lady Graduate teacher.

52. *MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any Muslim lady graduate teacher in the Education Department at present; and

(*b*) what is her total service?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know from Government whether there was a Muslim lady graduate teacher in the Education Department?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): What is her total service?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I am not quite sure. I think a few months.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): May I know whether she was sent for the L. T. course with the understanding that she will be re-entertained?

MR. C V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir. The department is waiting for her passing the L. T. examination.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Is there any rule that one must pass the L. T. examination to get a teacher's post in the department?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): No rule, Sir. She insisted on observing purdha. We sent her to the Lady Willingdon Training College in Madras on a stipend of Rs. 50 per mensem but she failed in the L. T. Examination.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Is the member aware that she is the only Muslim lady graduate in the whole of Kerala?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes, Sir.

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